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THE HANDS OF SHANG-CHI, MASTER OF KUNG FU

**SHANG-CHI AND
SHOCKWAVE
BATTLE THE
MINDLESS
MINIONS OF
MORDILLO!**

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**BRYNOCKI
TRIUMPHANT!**

From deep space...



Invasion of the Body Snatchers

The seed is planted...terror grows.

A Robert H. Solo Production of A Philip Kaufman Film

"Invasion of the Body Snatchers"

Donald Sutherland · Brooke Adams · Leonard Nimoy

Jeff Goldblum · Veronica Cartwright · Screenplay by W. D. Richter,

Based on the novel "The Body Snatchers" by Jack Finney · Produced by Robert H. Solo



DOLBY STEREO



Directed by Philip Kaufman



United Artists



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Suitable for Pre-Teenagers

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"Call me Shang-Chi, as my father did, when he raised me in the vacuum of his Honan, China retreat. Since then, I have learned that my father is Dr. Fu Manchu, the most insidiously evil man on earth...and that to honor him would bring nothing but dishonor to the spirit of my name.

Stan Lee PRESENTS: MASTER OF KUNG FU!

Featuring supporting characters created by SAX ROHMER

DOUG MOENCH / MIKE ZECK / BRUCE PATTERSON / PETRA G. / ROGER STERN / JIM SHOOTER
WRITER / PENCILER / INKER / LETTERER / COLORIST / EDITOR / EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



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MICHAEL ZECK



ALL RIGHT, BOSS,
WE GOT 'EM IN
OUR SIGHTS--
BLAST 'EM!

YOU DO,
BOSS-- YOU'LL
SEE.

THE NAME IS SHOCK-
WAVE, YOU LITTLE
MECHANICAL FREAK!
WHO NEEDS YOU
ANYWAY?

"AND ABOVE THE MADNESS
THERE RISES A SOUND I
HAVE COME TO DESPISE..."



"... THE COLDLY
METALLIC,
CHILDISH VOICE
OF THE ROBOT
CALLED
BRYNDOCKY.

WHAT THE--?
IT'S THE CHIMPAMAN
AN' ALL!

BUT HOW DO
I RESCUE 'EM FROM
HERE? MY HANDS ARE
LITERALLY TIED...

THEY
MUST'VE COME
TO RESCUE
ME-- BUT IT
LOOKS LIKE I'D
BETTER BEAT
'EM TO THE
PUNCH...



WAIT A MINUTE--
WHAT'S THAT THING?

"CANNON ZAPPER?"
LORD, THAT MORDILLO
WAS REALLY SICK.

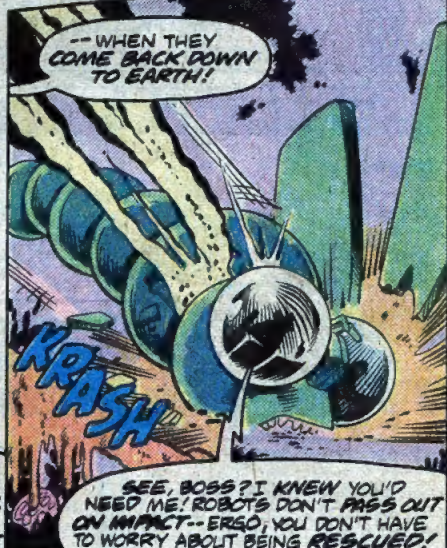
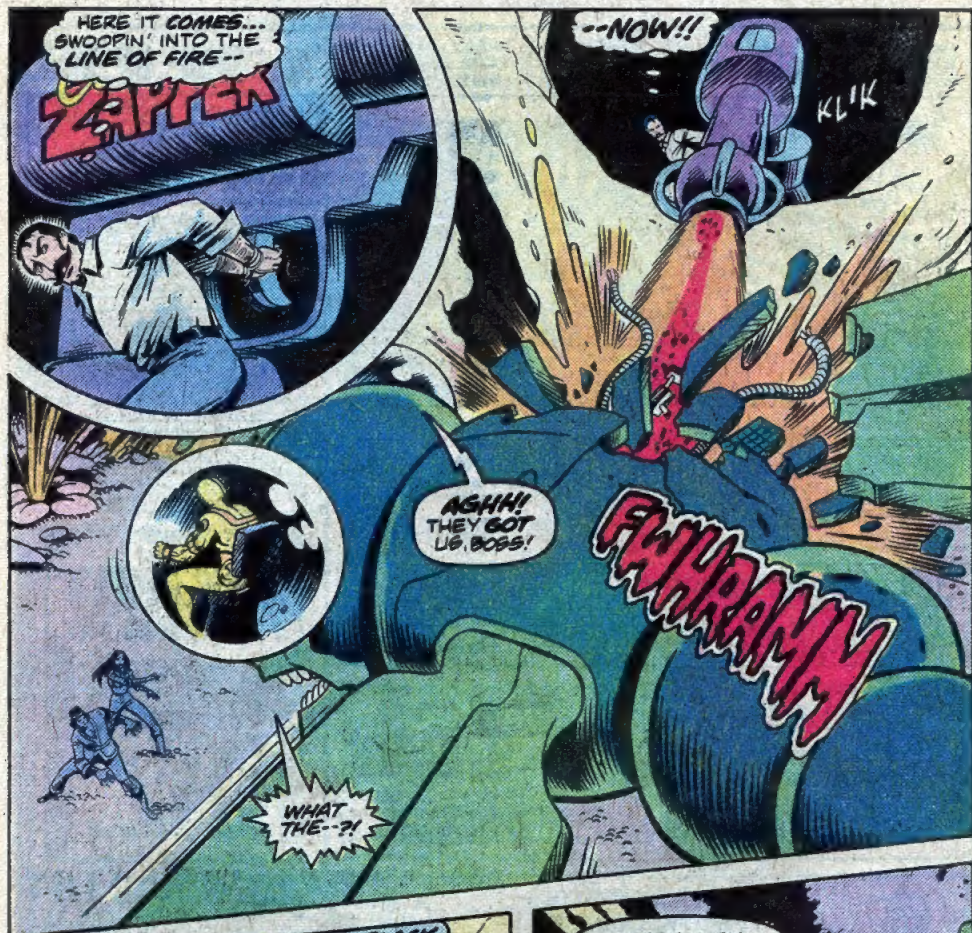


BUT IT LOOKS LIKE IT
OUGHTTA DO THE TRICK.
ANYWAY... IF I CAN MOVE
IT OVER TO THE
WINDOW.



AWRIGHT, TARR,
POUNDIN' HEAD-
ACHE OR NO,
TIME TO PUT YOUR
SHOULDER INTO
IT AND... HEAVE.

THAT'S IT,
YA BIG BEAR--
IT'S MOVIN'!



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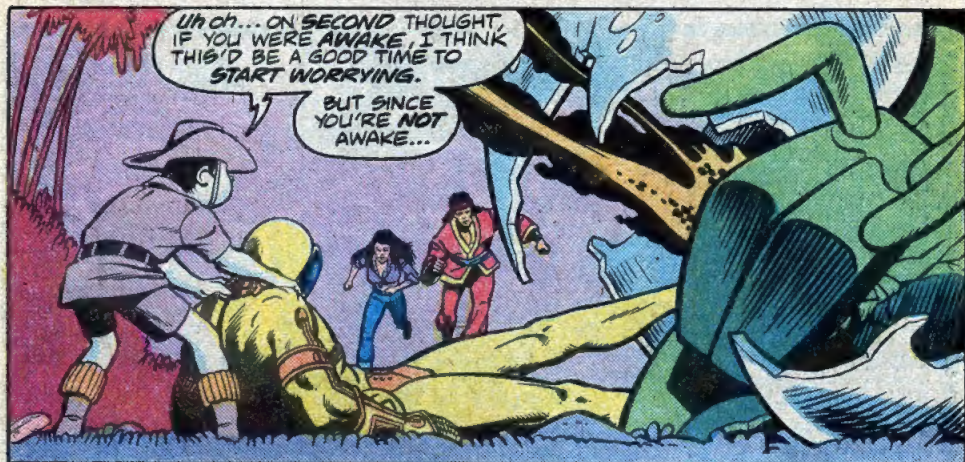
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SO LONG, BOSS-- YOU'RE TOO BIG A SPECIMEN FOR THIS ENTOMOLOGIST! MAYBE I'LL COME BACK FOR YOU WHEN THE INVADERS AIN'T SO RESTLESS!

LET THE ROBOT GO, LEIKO-- WITHOUT SHOCK-WAVE, IT CAN DO LITTLE HARM.



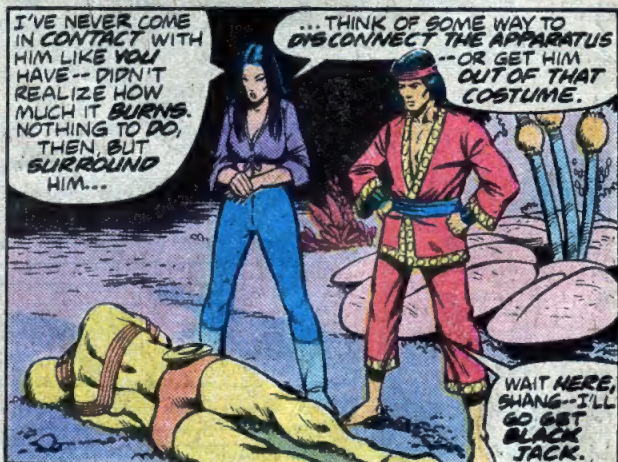
ALL RIGHT, SHANG, BUT WE'D BETTER MAKE SURE SHOCK-WAVE REALLY IS HELPLESS...

NO, LEIKO! DON'T TOUCH HIM WHILE HIS ELECTROSHOCK APPARATUS IS STILL--



I'VE NEVER COME IN CONTACT WITH HIM LIKE YOU HAVE-- DIDN'T REALIZE HOW MUCH IT BURNS. NOTHING TO DO, THEN, BUT SURROUND HIM...

... THINK OF SOME WAY TO DISCONNECT THE APPARATUS --OR GET HIM OUT OF THAT COSTUME.



WAIT HERE, SHANG-- I'LL GO GET BLACK JACK.

"LEIKO DEPARTS, AND WHILE MY EYES REMAIN ON SHOCKWAVE, MY MIND DWELLS ON THE OTHERS, WONDERING IF THEY HAVE REACHED SMITH'S CASTLE IN SCOTLAND... AND IF THEY ARE SAFE THERE..."



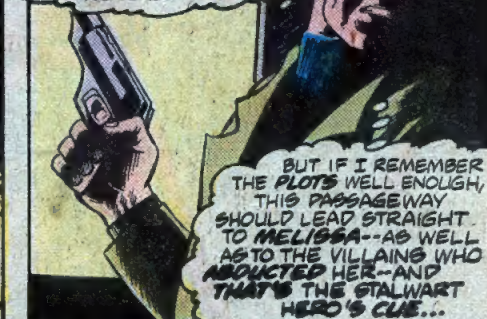
WAIT A MINUTE--THERE'S NO PICTURE IN THAT FRAME.



MELISSA--WHERE ARE YOU?



AND HERE I THOUGHT SECRET PASSAGEWAYS HAD GONE OUT WITH THE DECLINE OF THE GOTHIC NOVEL.



"...EVEN THOUGH I HATE TO LEAVE SMITH ALONE DOWN THERE..."



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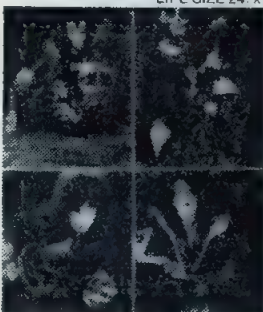
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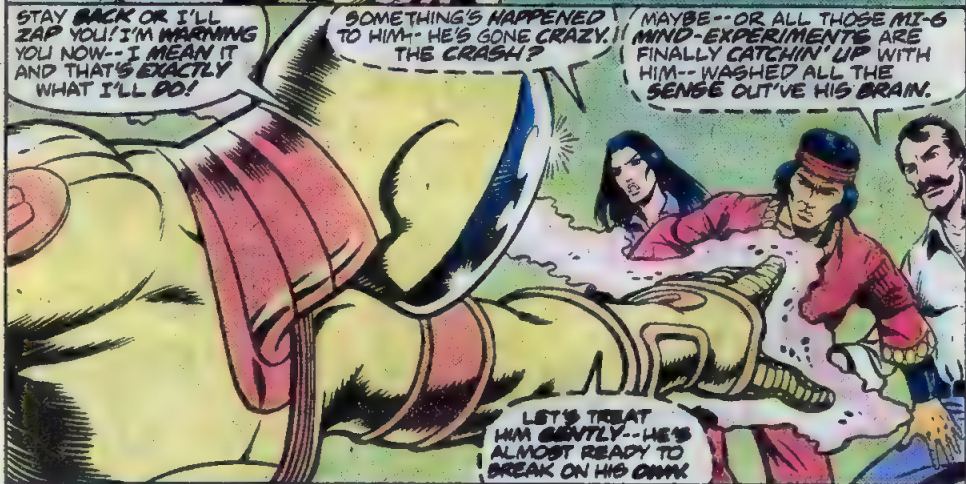
"HAS HIS BREATHING BECOME DEEPER, OR?"

AWRIGHT, WU, HOLD THE GUN ON HIM WHILE I USE THESE WIRE-CUTTERS TO CLIP HIS LIGHTS OUT AND--



SURPRISE, SURPRISE!

"YES-- HE WAS AWAKE."

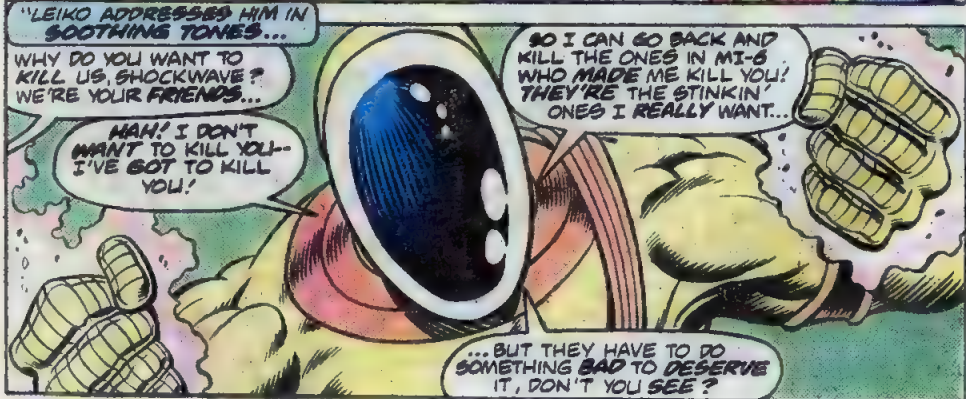


STAY BACK OR I'LL ZAP YOU! I'M WARNING YOU NOW-- I MEAN IT AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'LL DO!

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO HIM-- HE'S GONE CRAZY. THE CRASH?

MAYBE-- OR ALL THOSE MI-6 MIND-EXPERIMENTS ARE FINALLY CATCHIN' UP WITH HIM-- WASHED ALL THE SENSE OUT'VE HIS BRAIN.

LET'S TREAT HIM GENTLY-- HE'S ALMOST READY TO BREAK ON HIS OWN.



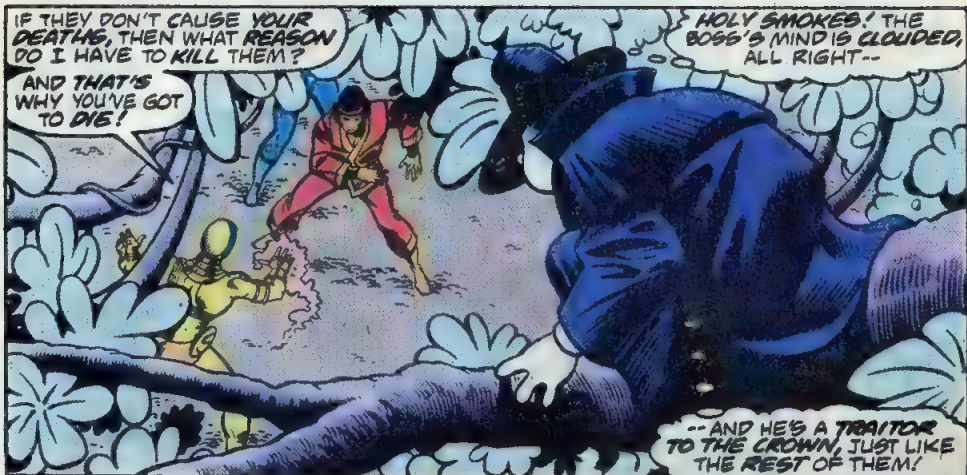
"LEIKO ADDRESSED HIM IN SOOTHING TONES..."

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KILL US, SHOCKWAVE? WE'RE YOUR FRIENDS...

HAH! I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU-- I'VE GOT TO KILL YOU!

SO I CAN GO BACK AND KILL THE ONES IN MI-6 WHO MADE ME KILL YOU! THEY'RE THE STINKIN' ONES I REALLY WANT...

...BUT THEY HAVE TO DO SOMETHING BAD TO DESERVE IT, DON'T YOU SEE?

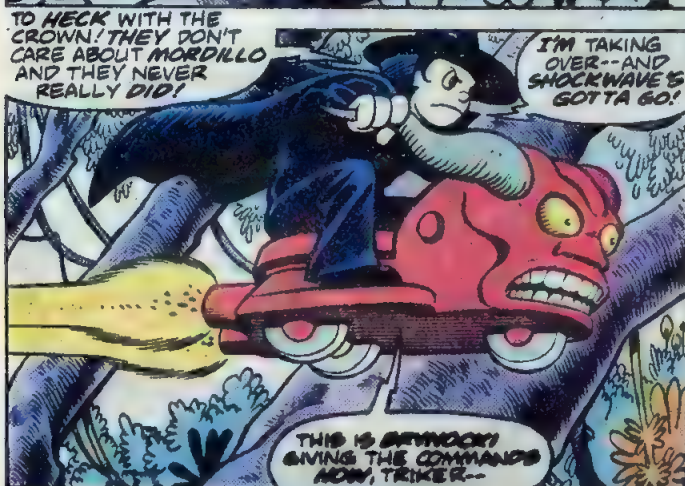


IF THEY DON'T CAUSE YOUR DEATH, THEN WHAT REASON DO I HAVE TO KILL THEM?

AND THAT'S WHY YOU'VE GOT TO DIE!

HOLY SMOKE! THE BOSS'S MIND IS CLOUDED, ALL RIGHT--

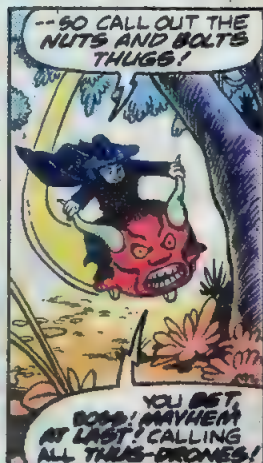
--AND HE'S A TRAITOR TO THE CROWN, JUST LIKE THE REST OF THEM!



TO HECK WITH THE CROWN! THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT MORDILLO AND THEY NEVER REALLY DID!

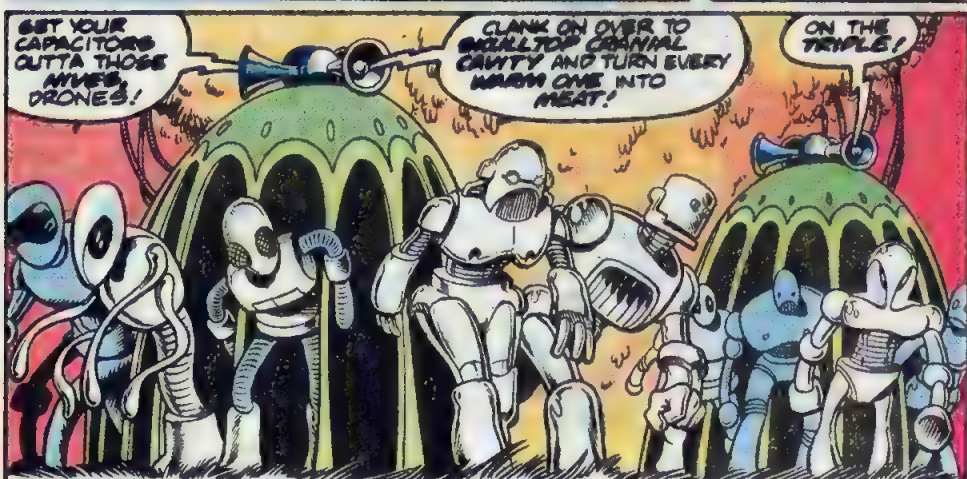
I'M TAKING OVER--AND SHOCKWAVE'S GOTTA GO!

THIS IS BETRAYING! SAVING THE COMMANDS NOW, TRICKER--



--SO CALL OUT THE NUTS AND BOLTS THUGS!

YOU BET, BOSS! MAYHEM AT LAST! CALLING ALL THUG-DRONES!



GET YOUR CAPACITORS OUTTA THOSE NUTS, DRONES!

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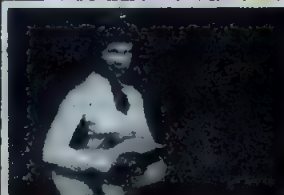
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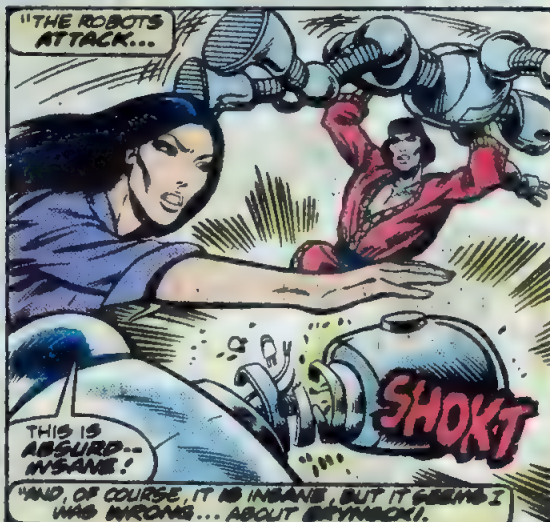
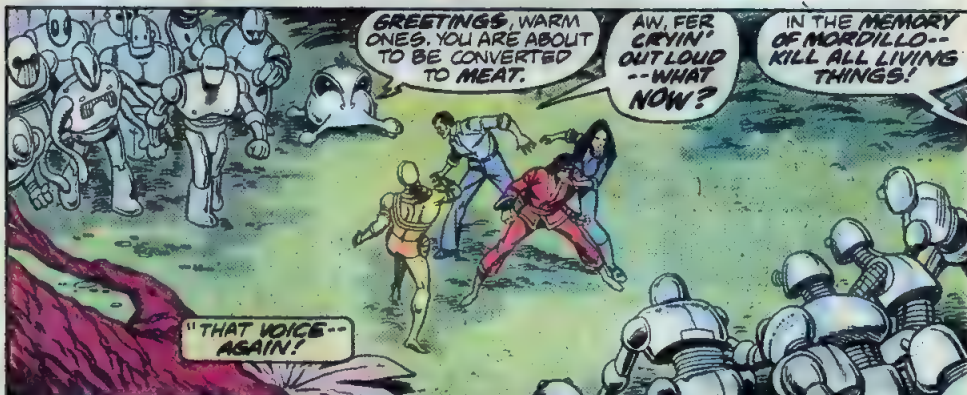
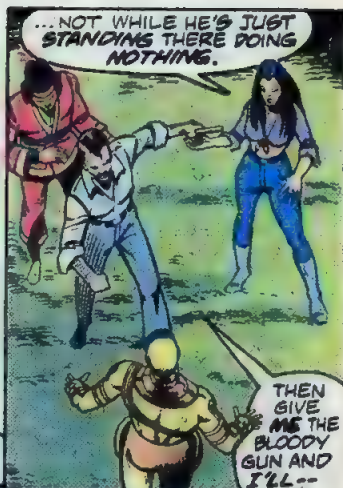
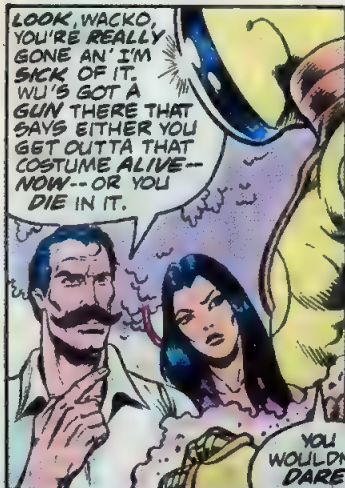
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FOR MY MISTAKE--EVEN SHOCK
WAVE..."

ZHAKT

MAN!
SHORTED OUT
YOUR CIRCUITS
WITH THAT SHOCK!

WHAT'RE YOU LOOKIN'
AT, PUNK? WE'RE ALL
ON THE SAME SIDE
NOW, AIN'T WE? THE
HUMANS AGAINST
THE MACHINES--?

"INDEED...AND I THINK I BEGIN TO GRASP
THE WESTERN SENSE OF IRONY--AS WELL
AS LEIKO'S OUTRAGED SENSE OF THE ABSURD."

TUNK

SPANG

AWRIGHT, AFTER WE
EACH FINISH OFF THE
ROBOT WE'RE WORKIN'
ON--

CRAPT

CHOKT

SPONG

BRAM

--LET'S MAKE A
BREAK FOR IT. MAYBE
WE CAN OUTRUN THE BLOODY
WALKIN' TIN-CANS!

NOW! LET'S MOVE! AND LISTEN, YOU TWO CAME IN A PLANE, DIDN'T YOU?

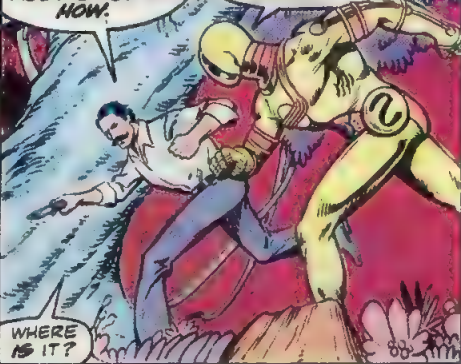
YES, BUT IT WON'T BE BACK FOR THE PICK-UP UNTIL 0800 HOURS.

GREAT. WHAT'S THE USE ANYWAY? IT WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE US THROUGH THE JUNGLE CANOPY OVERHEAD--



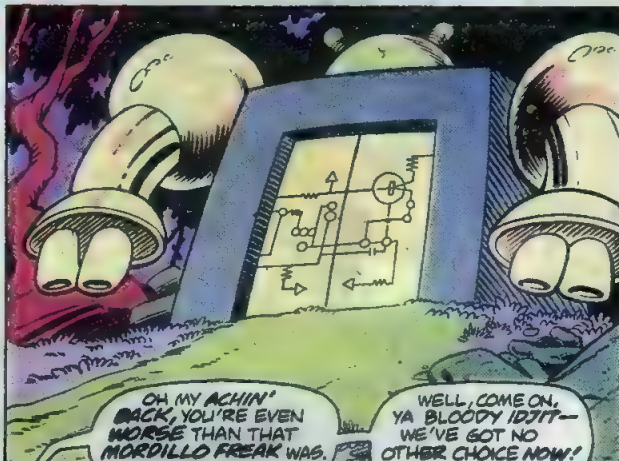
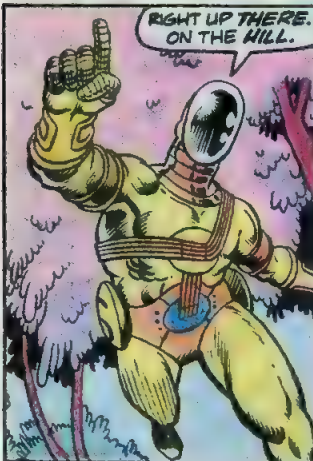
—AND NOW THAT WE'RE LOST, WE'LL NEVER FIND OUR WAY TO THE WATER. SO WE'VE GOTTA STOP THOSE ROBOTS--SOME--NOW.

WELL, WE COULD USE MY OVERLOAD SHOCK-WAVE-GENERATOR. I'VE BEEN ANXIOUS TO TRY IT OUT AND NOW THAT I CAN'T USE IT ON YOU, AS PLANNED...



WHERE IS IT?

RIGHT UP THERE. ON THE HILL.



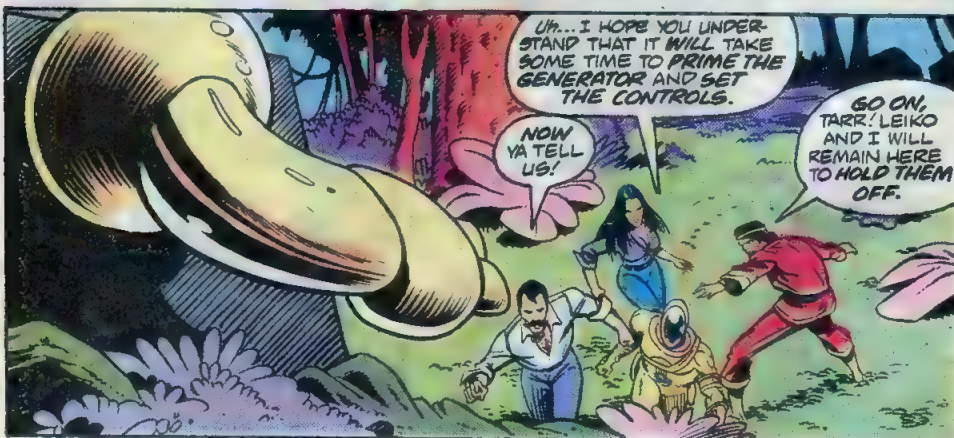
OH MY ACHIN' BACK, YOU'RE EVEN WORSE THAN THAT MORDILLO FREAK WAS.

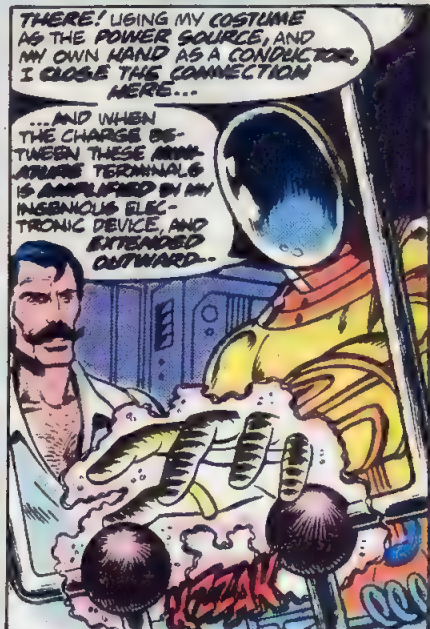
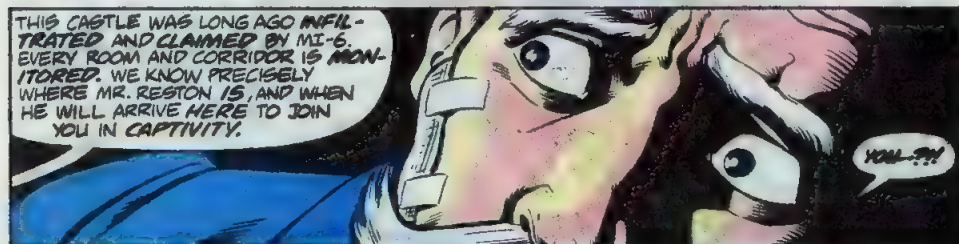
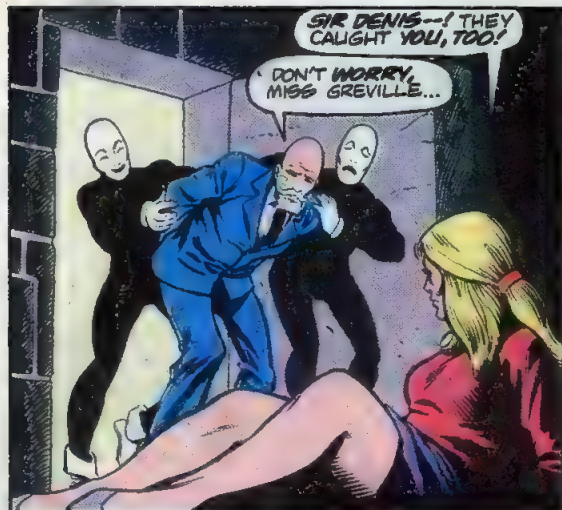
WELL, COME ON, YA BLOODY IDIOT--WE'VE GOT NO OTHER CHOICE NOW!

Um... I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO PRIME THE GENERATOR AND SET THE CONTROLS.

NOW YA TELL US!

GO ON, TARR! LEIKO AND I WILL REMAIN HERE TO HOLD THEM OFF.





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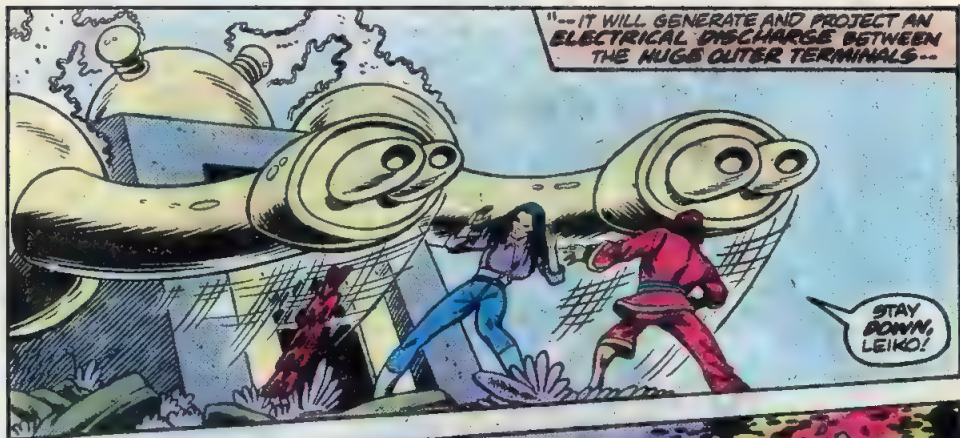
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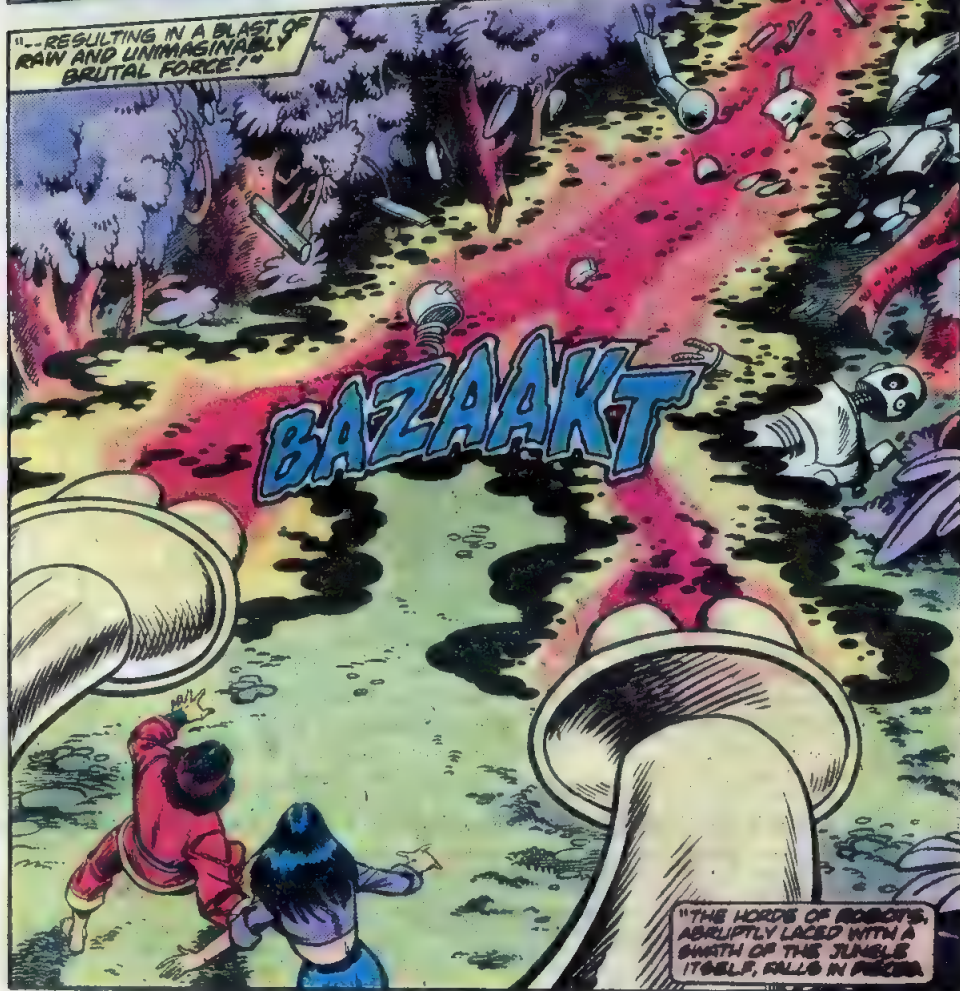
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LEIKO!



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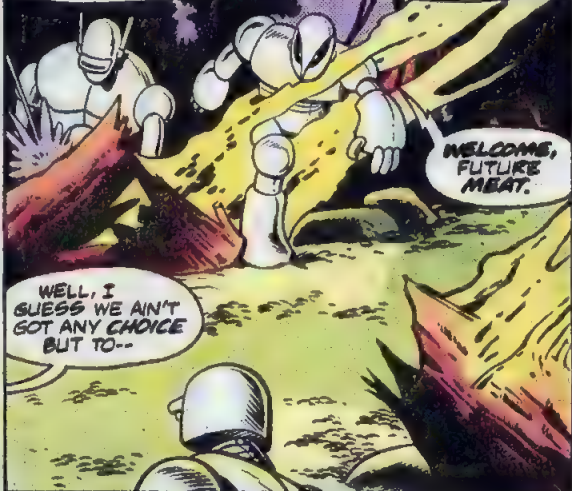
WELL, YOU SURE WEREN'T KIDDIN', WHACKO--IT BLASTED A PATH CLEAR TO THE WATER AT THE RIM OF THE ISLAND. LET'S GO.

WAIT. DIDN'T YOU JUST... HEAR SOMETHING?

YES... A RUSTLING FROM THE JUNGLE ... ON BOTH SIDES OF THE PATH. THE BLAST DID NOT DESTROY ALL THE ROBOTS.

THEN... IT'S LIKE A... A GIANT GAUNTLET... LEADING TO THE SEA.

YEAH, AND THERE THEY ARE--COMIN' OUT UP AHEAD TO WAIT FOR US.



WELCOME, FUTURE MEAT.

WELL, I GUESS WE AIN'T GOT ANY CHOICE BUT TO--

BE BRAVE, MY FELLOW HARRAD-THUGS AND NOBLE SOLEMOND SAMURAI!

TOGETHER WE SHALL CONQUER THE INVADERS WHO SEEK TO STEAL OUR HUNTING GROUNDS!



OH, BROTHER.

"YES... I WAS EXTREMELY WRONG ABOUT BRYNOCKI.

WELL, AS I
WAS SAYIN'...

WE AIN'T GOT MUCH CHOICE
BUT TO RUN THIS CRAZY
GALINTLET...

IN THE
MEMORY OF THE
GREAT SPIRIT
MORDILLO--POUNCE
ON THEM!!

... AND HOPE WE CAN
BASH ENOUGH OF THESE
BLOODY ROBOTS OUTTA
THE WAY...

...TO REACH THE WATER.

WE DID
IT, BLACK
JACK!

YEAH, WU...
BUT IT'S A
BIGGER DROP THAN
I THOUGHT.
NOW WHAT?

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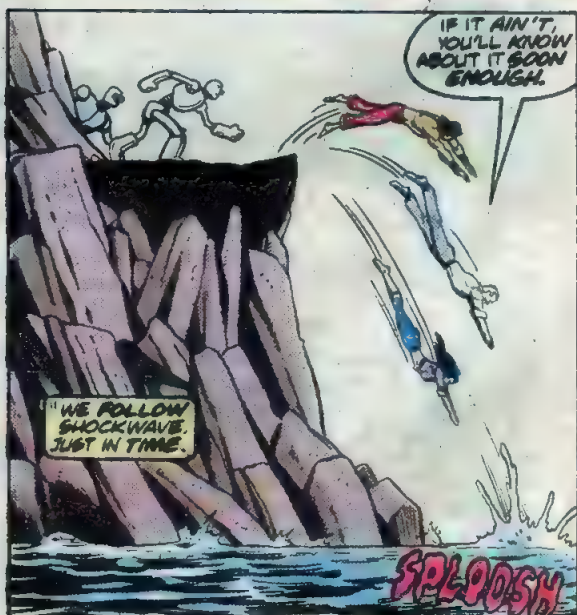
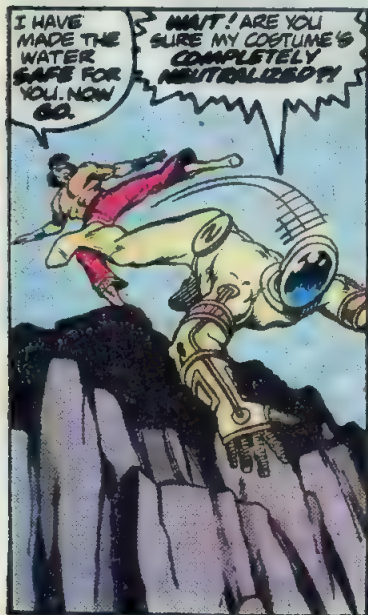
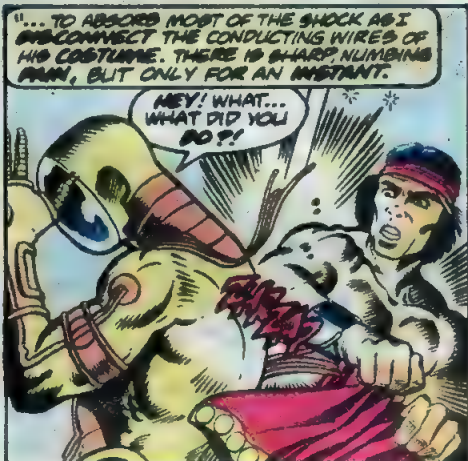
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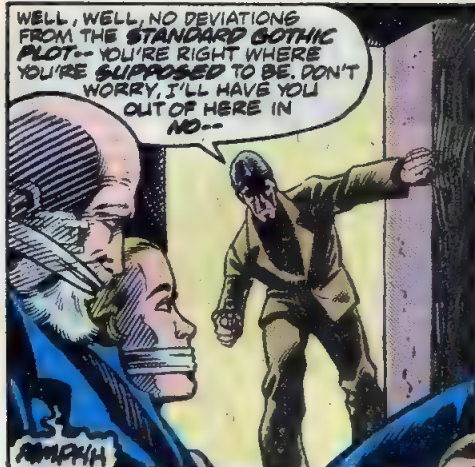
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WELL, WELL, NO DEVIATIONS FROM THE STANDARD GOTHIC PLOT-- YOU'RE RIGHT WHERE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE. DON'T WORRY, I'LL HAVE YOU OUT OF HERE IN NO--

AMPHH



TIME, AND NO TIME IS PRECISELY WHAT YOU HAVE, MR. RESTON.

YOU--?!



YES, MR. WARD SANSFIELD-- HERETOFORE THE POLITE, IF SOMEWHAT SARDONIC, LITTLE HELPER CALLED UPON FOR ALL THE NUISANCE WORK NECESSITATED BY YOU OH-SO-IMPORTANT FIELD AGENTS...

...BUT RECENTLY PROMOTED TO THE HEAD OF PROJECT: SINKING SHIP, MI-6'S MOST CRUCIAL ENDEAVOR TO DATE.

YOU SEE, THE TIDE HAS TURNED AND BEFORE IT'S TIME TO THE OH-SO--

THE SHIP SINKS, FLUSH OUT IMPORTANT RATS.



"AIR. BUT NOW THAT WE HAVE DESERTED THE ISLAND... WHERE CAN WE GO?"

UNDERWATER-- SWIM ALONG THE ISLAND AS FAR AS WE CAN... TRY TO SURFACE OUT OF SIGHT OF THE ROBOTS-- AND THEN WE CAN WAIT FOR THE PICK-UP PLANE.

GOOD THINKIN' CHINAMAN.



"BUT UNDERWATER..."

OH NO, YOU DON'T, YOU TRAITORS TO THE CROWN!

"BRYNOCKI... AGAIN?"

BULLPEN BULLETINS

STAN'S SOAPBOX

Okay, gang—the first thing you've gotta do is make sure you're alone in your room. Now, lock the doors and windows. What you are about to read is top secret and for the eyes of True Believers only. If this information were (perish forbid!) to fall into the hands of a competitive comicbook company (not that we care to admit we have any competition), the very foundations of literature as we know it would assuredly shrivel and crumble before your awestricken eyes! Therefore, remember you this—for what thou art about to peruse, thou art hereby pledged to deepest secrecy, in the hallowed name of Marveldom Assembled!

And now that we've done with the obligatory ceremonial trappings, let us proceed to the heart of the matter, namely—the exposé of the century—the revelation of the age—the unvarnished truth about the world's most famous non-entity—Honest Irving Forbush! Oh, how I wish this were but a script for one of our mags, so that I could title it "If This Be Forbush!" Or, "There Shall Come a Forbush!" Or perhaps, "Let There Be Forbush!" Well, you get the idea.

Years ago, about the time that MAD magazine was a-borning, yours truly produced a similar publication called SNAFU. Since the SATURDAY EVENING POST, in those days, had a line on the cover which read "Founded by Benjamin Franklin", it occurred to me that SNAFU could do no less than have a similar line on its contents page. But whose name would I use? Well, after many sleepless nights I came up with the phrase "Founded by Irving Forbush". Why Irving Forbush? I've absolutely no idea! I never knew anyone with that name, nor particularly wanted to. It just had the right sound to me. Incidentally, wanting to do the POST one better, I added, on the other side of the contents column, the line "Lost by his cousin, Melvin Forbush", or some such name—it's hard to remember after all that time.

Anyway, years later when mighty Marvel was just beginning to conquer the entire literary universe, I thought 'twould be fun to bring back good ol' Irv and give him the fame and prominence he so richly deserved. So there you have it. A fantastically meaningful object lesson in how to create something out of nothing and keep it the same way! And, if any of you can make any sense out of the foregoing, then consider thyself thrice No-Prized! As for me, I'm off to have a hoodown with the Hulk!

Excellent!

Stan

P.S. Nol Nol Nol It isn't true that Forbush is Darth Vader spelled sideways.

ITEM! Lately, it seems that Marvel's mighty magazine line has become the talk of the known universe! We've gotten a veritable mountain of mail from all over, voicing thunderous approval of our full-color Super Special ventures like JAWS 2, BATTLESTAR GALACTICA, and KISS 2. For more than a year now, we've been experimenting with better paper, new printing processes, new coloring techniques and special features (such as our four-page fold-out KISS poster!) and with each new project we gain experience, honing our skills. We at Marvel think we're on the threshold of revolutionizing the comics industry with our somewhat-more-expensive but oh-so-beautiful magazines. In fact we have a whole bunch of mind boggling new Super-Specials and full-color series in the works right now, like SATANA, for instance, and STAR-LORD, and the long-awaited, Tolkienesque WEIRDWORLD magazine, written by Doug Moench, and painted in watercolors by Mike Ploog! We can't wait for you to see these dazzling offerings—and that's where the only problem lies. It seems that more than a few of the cards and letters deluging the ol' Bullpen bear complaints about the difficulties many of you have had in locating our Marvelous Magazines. The trouble is that not enough newsstands and magazine stores carry our masterworks, and some that do don't stock all of them. All we can say, friends, is that we're doing what we can from this end—the rest is up to you! If distribution of our comics and magazines isn't up to snuff in your area, let your local retailers know about it! Make them aware of just how many sales they're passing up. Better still, find out who the magazine distributors are in your area and drop them a line. Tell them the titles you want to see on the stands! Remember, it's up to you! And if all else fails, friend, don't forget that you can subscribe to all our regular titles. It's \$4.50 for twelve issues of any 35¢ comic, and although one cannot yet subscribe to our glorious Super Specials (or annuals, or other one-shot special-type mags... sigh!) there is no reason at all to miss a single panel of the wonderment within SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN (12 issues for \$13.00), CRAZY (12 issues for \$8.50), MARVEL PREVIEW (4 issues for \$4.50), or THE HULK, in full, scintillating color (6 issues for a mere \$9.50). Address orders, with your check or money order enclosed, to Marvel Magazine Group Subscription Department, 675 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10022. You'll be glad you did.



ITEM! The insiders' hot tip of the month—buy yourself a copy of DAREDEVIL #157. Some of you will likely recognize the guest-writer's name, though she's relatively

new to the scripting biz, and once you've been dazzled by her inaugural effort, we're willing to bet that few of you will soon forget the lady's style!

ITEM! The event in comics this month has to be the arrival of BATTLESTAR GALACTICA #1, the premiere issue of what is sure to be one of Marvel's best and most popular series for a long, long time! Ramblin' ROGER MCKENZIE, writer, and Ever-ready ERNIE COLON, artist, have expanded their already-absoluted adaptation of the Battlestar Galactica TV movie to kick off the 35¢ color-comics series. You don't want to miss this one—so get on down to your newsstand now!



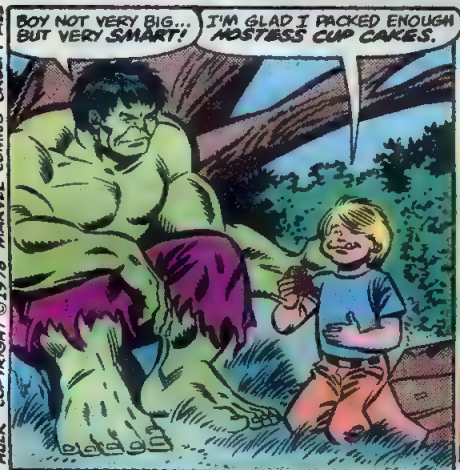
ITEM! Time to update the old Marvel Scorecards again, gang. Dubious DANNY CRESPI, Former Dean of Letterers and production person par excellence, has risen to the elite status of Assistant Production Manager. Former APM, Dependable DAVE COHEN has gone West in pursuit of True Happiness and a career in music—so it's best of luck to two great guys!

ITEM! Speaking of Super Specials, there's one coming your way in late November that's bound to set your mind on end! We'll give you a hint—it's all about the adventures of a certain thief, reaver, and slayer, noteworthy for his gigantic melancholies and gigantic mirth, whose idea of fun is treading the jeweled thrones of the Earth under his sandaled feet. No, it isn't Howard the Duck (but keep your eyes open for Howie's Super Special debut). In fact, Marvel Super Special #9 features none other than CONAN THE BARBARIAN in the same snazzy full-color format as in his previous appearance in Super Special #21! There's a surprise second feature in this issue, which we won't give away just yet, but fans of peerless feminine pulchritude would be well advised to peruse it. It's only a buck and a half, for Forbush's sake!

Happy Holidays!

THE INCREDIBLE HULK

CHANGES HIS MIND!



COME FORTH, MONSTROBOT
OF THE DEEP! SLAY YON
QUICK AND CUNNING
FISH!

YOU SEE? NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN OVER,
EVEN OLD SARGFIELD'S GOTTA GO IN THE
END, BUT IN THE MEANTIME I'VE GOTTA
ADMIT-- HE DID A BANG-UP JOB ON
THIS FAILSAFE GIZMO!



"TOO MUCH HAPPENS AT ONCE, ALL OF
IT GROSS MADNESS, A LONG-DEAD MAD-
MAN'S LEGACY SEEMINGLY WITHOUT END."

SARGFIELD...?
THEN IF HE'S
MIXED UP IN THIS
MESS... LORD, SIR
PENIS'LL BE FRIED
ALIVE!

"THE MONSTER LOOMS.
BREATH GROWS SHORT."

**NEXT
ISSUE**

THE SENSES-STUNNING CONCLUSION OF THE
MORRILLO ISLE SAGA--

SHATTERED CROWNS!

Dear Bullpen,

Not too long ago I incorrectly assumed MASTER OF KUNG FU was your average comic book cashing in on a popular theme celebrated by our 1970s media-oriented culture. I've since had to radically reassess my opinions toward this comic; MOKF is a dynamic, dramatic, and thrilling example of the graphic story at its very best.

Issue #69 was no exception. In fact, this story was one of the most cathartic experiences I've ever had. Shang-Chi's reactions and emotions were most vividly expressed, and I found the story downright absorbing. The juxtaposition of plotlines in "Stairway to Rage" was spellbinding, and the paneling involved a highly effective cinematic approach to the story's inherent drama. The recurrent flashes of Shang-Chi's moments with Juliette exemplify this technique. Indeed, the Juliette sequences explained Shang-Chi's motivations for fighting Skull-Crusher, and the process of narrowing down each incident to a one-panel flash on page 30 fully conveyed to the reader the same strong emotional significance each moment held for Shang-Chi. Every panel contained his raw human reactions, past and present emotions dramatically linked by Juliette's recurrent dialogue: "I'm just...weak." In fact, I experienced Shang-Chi's sudden realization and subsequent disillusionment even as he did, and the impact of this moment was awesome. Scripting and paneling were flawless; to achieve such gripping reader identification, they had to be.

Keep up the great work. MASTER OF KUNG FU is one of Marvel's finest achievements, and it is certainly one of my personal favorites.

Debbie Dunacsky
Pinneyhill Apt. 37 Route 3
Ellington, CT 06029

Glad you appreciated the value of Shang-Chi's emotional roller coaster ride, Debbie. At the time "Stairway to Rage" was conceived, we were convinced (and reader reaction seems to bear us out) that most people have shared a similar experience in one form or another, taking that adrenalin-driven trip—a strange, sadly disorienting, but almost perversely exhilarating trip—through the emotional state of commingled love and rage. Enough to empathize with our characters. Enough to pause and reflect. Enough to feel.

Dear Folks,

This is not so much to congratulate you on the "China Seas" saga (although it was very good), but to comment on the Shang-Chi phenomenon in general. Recently I lucked into the first ten consecutive MOKFs, then the four Giant-Size issues, at a second-hand book store. I've been collecting the mag for about a year now, and it struck me how much Shang-Chi has grown since then. But more surprising is the fact that he's had the opportunity to grow at all. I mean, DEADLY HANDS is gone, IRON FIST's own magazine is gone, and all the other products of the kung fu craze are gone, too. Yet MOKF is still alive and kicking. I think it's the "growing" that's done it.

Consider the storyline. A kung fu "nut" shows up. We are asked to believe that he is the son of Fu Manchu, who has never before shown his face in the Marvel Universe. He renounces his ties with Dr. Fu, and this leaves him a stranger to everything he must now cope with. Hundreds of pages into the saga, he is still innocent in some ways, but The Outside has nevertheless taken the edge off many of his previous convictions. He must constantly re-evaluate himself and the people around him, while fighting merely to stay alive. He sees our world as alien to

nearly everything he was educated to believe, and so he can perceive the inherent fallacies in the things we Occidentals take for granted. Yet he must *live* in our world.

And this is the Master of Kung Fu: Martial artist supreme, foil to his Western acquaintances, unconscious social commentator, and innocent. Mix with liberal amounts of action, adventure, suspense, a dash of humor, and there you have it. A comic book that is hard to kill, that acquires a loyal core of fans, that can outlast fads and trends. In short, an excellent magazine. Thank you.

With other comics, a fan will write in to say they particularly liked a sequence of pages so-and-so, or a particular two-page spread, or a particular issue. MOKF isn't like that. It is *always* good, and gets better with every issue. So all I can say is that I particularly like... MASTER OF KUNG FU.

Phil Jones

SPO
Sewanee, TN 37376

Dear Doug,

Did someone make a mistake on the separations for the cover of MOKF #68? It was the ugliest job of cover coloring I have ever seen in 26 years of reading comics!

The story, on the other hand, was a further example of the fine & intricate (8) would you believe, I am happy to say, "typical" work I have come to expect from you, Doug. I was particularly entranced by the way you wound up the Kogar-Cat-Neutron Bomb plot while simultaneously developing tantalizing new twists in the Clive-Leiko-Shang-Chi-Juliette subplot. The last panel, which might otherwise have left me contented and replete (the world is safe once more, thanks to Our Hero), put me instead into an agony of suspense (will Clive's overstretched hand reach Leiko's shoulder? And if it does, what then?). It was a masterful touch, and it's a credit to your intensely realistic development of the characters of the past few years that I didn't feel you were just "throwing in some love-interest." Clive's gesture is something which has been in the making since MOKF #33—and it struck me with the sort of impact which only the actions of someone I *know* can do.

As usual, I close in the hope that Fu Manchu will soon return, along with quasi-Oriental decor, the odor of incense, tastefully subliminal symbolism, and the half-seen shadows of Phelagar assassins lurking by full moon light in London's squalid Limehouse district.

P.S. I just picked up some reprints of Charlton's YANG comics and found to my amusement that the insidious Bill Wu used to give *them* hell too! This led to my desire to see a genuine Jewish villain in MOKF. I'm sick of being discriminated against! What's the matter — you think Jews ain't smart enough to be criminally demonic? Come on, Doug, that's *prejudice* — and Stan says that's a no-no! Give us a high-class Jewish villain or admit you're a bigot!

Cat Yronwode
Route 1, Box 43
Mtn. Grove, MO 65711

Doug says: "Hey! What's the matter with this Cat? Such problems. And Cat? What kind of name is this, a name like Cat? Is she a girl or a guy? And furthermore, she should read all my stories and not *know*? She should read these stories, all of them, every one of them, and not realize that Velcro—God rest his soul—was a Jew? Cat. Such a name is Cat?"

And as for that certain other Master Villain you mentioned, well... we'll never tell. (Until the proper moment, anyway...) See ya next issue, People. Be good.

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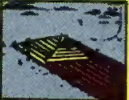
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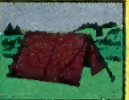
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